



The California Master Plan for Education

10 Essential Reasons Why We Need the Master Plan

The Master Plan for Education directly responds to the public's demand for quality education for everyone in California. While the plan makes dozens of recommendations for how to improve education in California, the following are some of the most critical reasons why the Master Plan should be implemented:

1. Every year, California invests billions of dollars on public education. And yet there is no coherent or overarching “business plan” in place. No blueprint on which to build. No map to guide. No plan for educating the students of tomorrow.
2. The Master Plan proposes a seamless system of education. Specifically, it would require coordination and collaboration among pre-K, K-12, and postsecondary education and among the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges.
3. The Master Plan puts student achievement first—rather than the educational bureaucracy.
4. The Master Plan proposes to establish clear lines of accountability and responsibility at all levels—for teachers, administrators, students and parents, the governor, and other elected officials.
5. The Master Plan proposes to help the business community, labor organizations, students, and the California economy by placing a priority on preparing a qualified workforce.
6. The Master Plan promotes early learning. Specifically, it seeks to improve school readiness and achievement by proposing a set of coordinated programs and services for families and children from birth through grade three, with a focus on those from low-income households.
7. The Master Plan recommends a fundamental shift in school financing so that for the first time there would be a direct link between expectations for a quality education and the resources needed to achieve them (“an adequacy-based” model of financing).
8. The Master Plan seeks to create an environment that fosters flexibility, equity, access, accountability, quality, and coordination at all levels.
9. The Master Plan would help California’s teachers become better prepared and more effective by promoting the use of proven, research-based teaching practices with the state’s students.
10. The Master Plan recommends a rigorous curriculum that prepares all students for the full range of life choices after high school, especially successfully entering the workforce and/or college.